

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on March 31, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lexi Goble, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 235, 3/27/2017
Executive Action: SB42, SB 46, SB 284, SB 287, SB 314

HEARING ON SB 235**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:23 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 235, Allow extension of coal lease on state lands.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:07 Rep. Z. Brown and Rep. Noland joined the meeting

00:02:44 Steve Wade, Great Northern Properties (GNP)

00:05:23 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council (MCC)

00:08:40 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)

EXHIBIT(nah67a01)

00:11:57 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:12:35 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

00:14:31 Dan Stusek, State Auditor's Office (SAO)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:15:59 Brenda Lindlief-Hall, Tongue River Water Users Association (TRWU)

00:21:03 Mark Fix, Self

EXHIBIT(nah67a02)

00:24:37 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

EXHIBIT(nah67a03)

00:26:48 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony:

00:29:44 Monte Mason, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:30:05 Rep. B. Brown

00:31:19 Bud Clinch, MCC

00:32:39 Rep. Flynn

00:33:11 Monte Mason, DNRC

00:33:46 Rep. Flynn

00:34:26 Bud Clinch, MCC

00:35:56 Rep. Abbott

00:36:27 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:36:58 Rep. Curdy

00:38:08 Brenda Lindlief-Hall, TRWU

00:38:28 Rep. Curdy

00:38:59 Bud Clinch, MCC

00:39:16 Monte Mason, DNRC

00:39:36 Rep. Flynn

00:40:08 Chair White

00:40:21 Rep. Windy Boy

00:40:50 Monte Mason, DNRC

00:41:21 Rep. Gunderson

00:44:39 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

00:45:28 Rep. Fleming
00:46:10 Sen. Richmond
00:46:40 Rep. Flynn
00:48:04 Mark Fix, Self
00:49:45 Rep. Flynn
00:50:13 Monte Mason, DNRC
00:50:30 Rep. Z. Brown
00:51:02 Sen. Richmond
00:51:09 Rep. Court
00:51:59 Monte Mason, DNRC
00:52:16 Rep. Court
00:57:41 Sen. Richmond
00:58:55 Rep. Fitzgerald
00:59:52 Bud Clinch, MCC
01:01:14 Rep. Fitzgerald
01:01:44 Sen. Richmond
01:03:40 Rep. Curdy
01:04:57 Bud Clinch, MCC
01:06:19 Chair White
01:08:05 Brenda Lindlief-Hall, TRWU
01:08:35 Chair White
01:09:32 Monte Mason, DNRC
01:09:43 Chair White
01:10:29 Sen. Richmond
01:10:54 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:11:45 Rep. Curdy
01:11:56 Joe Kolman, LSD
01:12:19 Chair White
01:13:09 Monte Mason, DNRC
01:13:29 Rep. Flynn
01:14:19 Monte Mason, DNRC
01:14:48 Rep. Gunderson
01:15:23 Rep. Windy Boy left the meeting
01:15:29 Sen. Richmond
01:16:29 Rep. Flynn

Closing by Sponsor:

01:17:37 Sen. Richmond

01:20:20 Brief Recess

01:35:02 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 42

01:35:36 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 42 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:35:48 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:38:12 **Motion:** Rep. Flynn moved that **SB 42 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(nah67a04\)](#)

01:38:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:38:48 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 42 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:38:59 Rep. Z. Brown

01:39:14 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Flynn will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 46

01:39:53 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 46 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:40:06 Joe Kolman, LSD

01:41:31 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Windy Boy will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 284

01:41:56 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 284 BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:43:37 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 284 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(nah67a05\)](#)

01:43:52 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:44:21 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 284 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:44:33 Rep. Manzella

01:45:33 Chair White

01:47:09 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Manzella and Rep. Mortensen voting no. Rep. Galt will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 287

01:47:18 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 287 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:47:44 Joe Kolman, LSD

01:48:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Fitzgerald will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 314

01:49:12 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 314 BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:49:26 **Motion:** Rep. Galt moved that **SB 314 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(nah67a06)

Discussion:

01:50:21 Rep. Court

01:50:30 Rep. Galt

01:51:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:51:34 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 314 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

01:51:50 **Vote:** Motion carried 14-1 by voice vote with Rep. Court voting no. Rep. Mortensen will carry the bill.

Committee Business:

01:53:48 Rep. Flynn

01:53:59 Chair White

01:54:02 Rep. Curdy

01:54:12 Chair White

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:
01:56:08

Lexi Goble, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah67aad.pdf](#))